



OFFICES OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Douglas M. Duncan  
County Executive

May 11, 2005

Bruce Romer  
Chief Administrative Officer

TO: Thomas E. Perez, President  
County Council

FROM: Dolores Kozloski, Chair *DK*  
Criminal Justice Coordinating Commission

SUBJECT: FY06 Operating Budget

This memorandum is to ask, on behalf of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Commission (CJCC), for your reconsideration of proposed committee reductions to the gang initiative in the County Executive's Recommended FY06 Operating Budget.

As you know, the CJCC is comprised of the leadership of the County's criminal justice system, including the chiefs of all municipalities, as well as the County Police, the Sheriff, State's Attorney, State officials, representatives of the County's General Assembly Delegation, the County Council and other members of the County's criminal justice system. We ask that the County Council restore the Council Committees' reductions that were made to the Gang Initiative, so that this initiative which was developed through the full participation of the community and in conjunction with Prince George's County can be implemented as originally conceived.

We appreciate the very difficult choices the Council has to make in weighing property tax relief with service improvements. However, given that the proposed improvements are critical for addressing the real public safety issues that the residents of this county experience on a daily basis, these improvements are a genuine investment in the continued safety and quality of life in Montgomery County.

The County's gang initiative is a comprehensive approach to this very complex problem that provided funding to address issues of prevention, intervention, and suppression and was not merely focused on the law enforcement aspects of the gang problem in Montgomery County.

We are very concerned that the efforts taken by Northern Virginia to eradicate gang activity will force the relocation of some of these gangs to concentrate more heavily in Montgomery County. It is important that we are proactive in our anti-gang efforts so that they are coordinated with the actions of other local governments in this region and address the underlying causes of gang activities.

DK:jfb

cc: Douglas M. Duncan, County Executive  
CJCC Members



**Criminal Justice Coordinating Commission**

101 Monroe Street • Rockville, Maryland 20850 • 240/777-2500, TTY 240/777-2544, FAX 240/777-2518  
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